



Please amend the present application as follows:

**Specification**

The following is a copy of Applicant's specification that identifies language being added with underlining ("\_\_\_\_") and language being deleted with strikethrough ("—"), as is applicable:

Page 6, lines 14 through 24.

Referring now to the drawings, in which like numerals indicate like elements throughout the several views, FIGS. 1 and 2 show a medical retrieval device 10. The medical retrieval device 10 includes a handle 12, a sheath 14 attached to the forward end of the ~~body~~ handle, a basket 16 extending from the forward end of the sheath 14, and a slide assembly 18 slidably mounted to the ~~body~~ handle 12. A longitudinal slot 20 (FIG. 1) is formed in the upper edge of the handle 12. A channel 22 (FIG. 2) is formed in one lateral face of the handle, and a second channel 24 (see FIG. 12) is formed in the opposite lateral face of the handle.

Page 9, line 1 through 14.

Assembly of the handle 12 and slide assembly 18 will now be explained with respect to FIGS. 10-13. Referring first to FIG. 10, the upper and lower gear racks 26a, 26b are inserted into either end of the I-shaped channel 43 in the thumb slide 34 and longitudinally centered with respect to the thumb slide. The handle halves 12a, 12b are then assembled around the thumb slide 34. As can be seen in FIGS. 11 and 12, the walls 56 defining the outer edges of the longitudinal slot 20 fit within the recesses 40 of the thumb

slide 34, and the neck 39 of the thumb slide rides within the slot 20. Similarly, the ribs 58 on the inner wall of each handle half 12a, 12b extend into the ~~faces~~ recess 42 on either side of the foot 41 of the thumb slide 34. The walls 56 and ribs 58 guide the thumb slide 34 for sliding movement along a predetermined path within the handle 12.